

45

INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET/CONTROL US OFFICIALS ONLY
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY	USSR (Latvian SSR)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Naval Vessels in the Lepaya Area	DATE DISTR.	29 May 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	22
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD 25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The KIROV was still based in Lepaya. A second vessel, somewhat smaller than the KIROV, has been based in Lepaya since the summer maneuvers in 1951. 25X1
2. The ZORKIY and a second Border Guard vessel were very similar to the destroyer PROCHNYI. In June 1952, the ZORKIY was to be given to the Soviet Navy in Leningrad.
3. Escort destroyers have been seen occasionally at sea off Lepaya; they have never been observed in port. Coastal destroyers were seen in Lepaya Outer Harbor as recently as the spring of 1952. On several occasions during 1952, a coastal destroyer, with a rounded bridge and a crane aft, was observed entering and leaving the Naval Harbor.
4. Submarines, such as the SHCH- [] were frequently observed entering and leaving the Naval Harbor; submarines of another type were observed only as they were leaving the port of Lepaya. Other submarines similar to those [] were observed off Lepaya and in the Outer Harbor. 25X1
5. MTBs of the ELCO class were based in Lepaya Merchant Harbor; however, these MTBs had no anti-aircraft guns on the bridge or the rear platform. Some of these MTBs belonged to the Soviet Navy, and others to the Border Guard.
6. MTBs, which appeared to be similar to those of the HIGGINS class, were still based in Lepaya Merchant Harbor; some of these belonged to the Soviet Navy, while others were assigned to the Border Guard.
7. Motor minesweepers of the T-361 and T-462 classes were frequently observed entering and leaving Lepaya Naval Harbor, as well as the Merchant Harbor.

SECRET/CONTROL US OFFICIALS ONLY

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--

422

SECRET/CONTROL US OFFICIALS ONLY

25X1

-2-

8. Antisubmarine vessels of the KRONSTADT class, or BOLSHOY OKHOTNIK (BO), were known as the Big Hunters. Antisubmarine vessels MO or MALYY OKHOTNIK were known as the Small Hunters.
9. Approximately ten boats of the KT-76 type were moored in Lepaya Merchant Harbor; they moved between the Merchant Harbor and the Naval Harbor, and were occasionally observed at sea off Lepaya.
10. Fleet minesweepers of the ex-German M-40 class, very similar to the T-726, were based in Lepaya Winter Harbor. The radar screens on these minesweepers were fixed in the same position as that of the T-719. In the autumn of 1951, fleet minesweepers of another type were occasionally observed off Lepaya.
11. As late as 1952, fleet minesweepers, [redacted] have been observed entering and leaving Lepaya Naval Harbor. Occasionally one or two of these minesweepers have also maneuvered in the Winter Harbor, seemingly making compass corrections. 25X1
12. Minesweepers of the ex-German KFK type were not used by the Soviet Navy in Lepaya. These vessels, without gun platforms, were employed for fishing purposes by the State Fishing Enterprise (Gosmorlov).
13. A submarine salvage vessel, which was very similar to the depot ship KOMMUNA, was moored to the quay in the Free Port.
14. The training ship TOVARISHCH was moored in Lepaya Merchant Harbor, near the bridge, for approximately a year. It left on an unknown date in the spring of 1952.
15. It is not known whether the icebreaker KRISJANIS VALDEMARS has been salvaged; this vessel was sunk in Estonian waters during the war.
16. The salvage ship VENTSPILS has been moored in Lepaya Merchant Harbor since the autumn of 1951; it has been tied up near the bridge, just east of the GROZNYI.
17. The tanker GROZNYI, which has been based in Lepaya since 1945, was similar in appearance to the Tanker [redacted] type. 25X1
18. The radio-directed target ship based in Lepaya Naval Harbor was very similar in appearance to the TSEL.
19. Two tugs, the HERCULES and the PROLETARIY, were frequently observed in Lepaya. The tug TAIFUN was either based in Lepaya or, at least, was a frequent visitor to the Lepaya Merchant Harbor. The fire-fighting tug GORN, which belonged to the O.S.G. (Otdel Snabzheniya Goryuchim), was also based in Lepaya.

SECRET/CONTROL US OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET/CONTROL US OFFICIALS ONLY